(i) Panvel-Karjat (28 Kilometre)

(ii) Amravati-Chandurbazar (44 Kilometre)

(b) The details of lines converted to broad gauge in Maharashtra during 9th & 10th Plan are as under:

Section falling fully/partly in Maharashtra		Kms falling in Maharashtra
(i)	Solapur-Hotgi-Bijapur (Part)	56 Kms
(ii)	Nagbhir-Chandafort-Ballarshah	122 Kms
(iii)	Pandharpur-Kurduwadi & Latur-Latur Road	94 Kms
(iv)	Mudkhed-Dharmabad-Nizamabad	62 Kms
(v)	Adilabad-Kinwat (Part)	15 Kms
(vi)	Gondia-Balaghat (Part)	24 Kms

(c) No section is targeted for completion during 2005-06. Target for 2006-07 would be known only when the Railway Budget 2006-07 is presented in the Parliament.

Air-Condition facilities to Sleeper Class passengers

700. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to provide air-condition facilities to the rail passengers who travels in sleeper class by charging very nominal sum;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it would be started; and

(c) how much of approximate difference cost would be borne by the Railways between sleeper class coach and 3rd AC coach?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) With a view to optimize the utilization of available accommodation in train, a scheme to upgrade full fare paying passengers to the next higher class against the available vacant accommodation has since been extended to all Mail/Express trains having sleeping

accommodation w.e.f. 24-02-2006. The salient features of the scheme are given below:-

(i) The scheme is applicable to only full fare paying passengers, free of charge.

(ii) It is applicable only in those trains having sleeping accommodation.

(iii) The passengers for upgradation will be selected on random basis by the System at the time of preparation of reservation charts.

(iv) Upgradation of passenger will be done as under:-

Sleeper to 3AC or First Class

3 AC to 2 AC

2AC to 1 AC

(v) Upgradation will not be done for block booking transactions.

(vi) Upgradation will be done only to the extent of clearance of the combined waiting list of all classes. If there is no waiting list, no upgradationg will take place.

(vii) If a passenger, who has been upgraded, cancels his ticket, cancellation charges of the original call only will be payable.

Sakari-Nirmali and Jhanjharpur-Laukaha Rail Line

†701. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the amount required for gauge conversion from narrow to broad one from Sakari to Jhanjharpur, Jhanjharpur to Nirmali and from Jhanjharpur to Laukaha is to be provided by Ministry of Defence;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the then Minister of Defence had laid the foundation stone of gauge conversion at Jhanjharpur in early 2004;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the work of gauge conversion could not commence as the required amount was not provided by the Ministry, so far; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.